

AMENDMENT TO CLAIMS

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 1-17, 21-32, 34-42, 44-47 and 49-65 as being drawn to non-elected subject matter. Cancellation is made without prejudice to pursuing cancelled subject matter in later applications. Amend the pending claims as provided below:

1-17. (Cancelled)

B² 18. (Currently Amended) An antibody that binds immunospecifically to ~~the polypeptide of claim 1~~ an isolated polypeptide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- a) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;
- b) a variant of a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein one or more amino acid substitutions are made according to Table 2, provided that said variant is at least 85% identical to SEQ ID NO:2 and retains cellular proliferations activity;
- c) an isolated polypeptide fragment of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said fragment comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of residues 54-211 of SEQ ID NO:2 and residues 24-211 of SEQ ID NO:2, and wherein said fragment retains cellular proliferations activity; and
- d) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence given by SEQ ID NO:2, said polypeptide further comprising at least one conservative amino acid substitution, wherein said polypeptide is a full length polypeptide that retains functional growth factor-like properties of SEQ ID NO: 2, retains the conserved amino acids of the FGF family motif located at residues 125, 127, 129, 136, 137, 139, 141 and 148, and retains the hydrophobic transport domain between residues 92-120, wherein the residues are numbered with respect to SEQ ID NO:2.

19. (Original) The antibody of claim 18, wherein said antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

20. (Original) The antibody of claim 18, wherein the antibody is a humanized antibody or a human antibody.

21-32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently Amended) ~~The therapeutic agent of claim 31~~ A therapeutically effective amount of a composition for use in treatment of a pathology, wherein the pathology is associated with aberrant expression, aberrant processing, or aberrant physiological interactions of the polypeptide of claim 18, wherein the agent composition is an antibody, or has a molecular weight not more than about 1500 Da and wherein the composition alters the functional growth factor-like properties of the polypeptide.

34-42. (Cancelled)

B²
cont
43. (Currently Amended) A ~~pharmaceutical~~ composition comprising the antibody of claim 18 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

44-47. (Cancelled)

48. (Currently Amended) A kit comprising in one or more containers a ~~pharmaceutical~~ the composition of claim 43.

49-65. (Cancelled)

66. (New) The polypeptide of claim 18, the polypeptide further comprising a post-translational modification other than a proteolytic cleavage.

67. (New) The polypeptide of claim 66, wherein the post-translational modification is at least one modification chosen from the group consisting of phosphorylation and N-myristoylation.
